Durable Solutions Programming Principles

Government-led

Interventions support the government in assuming its responsibility for facilitating durable solutions for displacement affected communities, take a leadership role and coordinate across sectors and all tiers of government based on the National Development Plan and other relevant government frameworks. Interventions support national, sub-federal and local government in planning, coordinating, delivering and monitoring services and programmes.

Area-based

Interventions target 'displacement affected communities' including IDPs, refugee returnees and host populations in a defined area and respond to the specific living conditions, risks and opportunities of the local context. Partners working in the same area aim at achieving coherence and greater impact through joint analysis, planning and coordination and through the creation of referral pathways.

Collective and Comprehensive

Interventions do not need to address all aspects of durable solutions but contribute to a long-term and comprehensive approach to displacement across sectors by humanitarian, development, human rights and peace-/state-building actors. Partners work towards collective outcomes jointly pursued by government and non-governmental actors including civil society, affected communities themselves, the private sector, research/academia and the international community.

Participatory and Community-based

Interventions enable 'displacement affected communities' including IDPs, refugee returnees and host communities to actively participate in the selection, planning, implementation and monitoring of activities. Interventions help communities define their own priorities and facilitate reconciliation and social cohesion among its members through inclusive processes.

Rights- and Needs-based

Interventions are guided by the needs, rights, legitimate interests, resources and capacities of displacement affected communities. They respect the right of displaced persons to make an informed and voluntary choice on what durable solution to pursue and facilitate safe, unimpeded and timely access to support and information. Interventions aim at enabling displaced persons to fully enjoy all their economic, legal, socio-cultural and civil-political rights without any discrimination for reasons related to their displacement.

Sensitive to Gender, Age, Disabilities and Marginalization

Interventions give special attention to the specific concerns and perspectives of women, youth, persons with disabilities and marginalised groups and take into consideration identity dynamics and mechanisms of exclusions that present hurdles for accessing rights, services and equal opportunities.

Sustainable

Interventions facilitate locally-led solutions by the government, civil society, private sector and communities themselves. They strengthen the government's role through systematic capacity building support institutional processes and frameworks enabling durable solutions at all levels. Interventions prioritise delivery through existing government and community structures and aim at including displaced

population into these rather than establishing parallel structures. Interventions are conflict-sensitive and contribute to sustainable peace-building and development by going beyond 'do no harm'. Interventions are based on long-term planning, multi-year time frames and budgets and are able to respond to changing dynamics through flexible and adaptive programming.

What are durable solutions to displacement?

A durable solution is achieved when displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement. It can be achieved through sustainable reintegration at the place of origin (voluntary return), local integration in areas where displaced persons take refuge or in another part of the country based on their choice.

What is a durable solutions process?

Finding durable solutions entails gradually reducing the short and long-term needs and vulnerabilities of displacement affected communities and enabling displaced persons to rebuild their lives and to become self-reliant through sustainable economic and social re-integration into society either at the location of displacement, the place of origin or elsewhere in the country. Achieving durable solutions is often a complex process requiring political leadership and the combination of human rights-, humanitarian-, development-, peace- and state-building approaches of all actors involved.

Which international, regional and national frameworks guide the work towards durable solutions?

International standards addressing the rights of and duties towards IDPs and of displacement affected communities as a whole and guidance on durable solutions can be found in the *UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* and the *IASC Framework on Durable Solutions*. The *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (Kampala Convention) is the first legally binding framework to protect the rights of IDPs. Somalia has signed but not ratified the Kampala Convention. In Somalia, the *2017-2019 National Development Plan* is the guiding document for crafting development responses to displacement and attaining durable solutions for displacement affected communities. On the sub-federal level, several *policy frameworks* address internal displacement and a growing number of municipalities develops *Community Action Plans* together with displacement affected communities.